Today's News - Thursday, July 12, 2007

Cool thoughts for a hot day: MIT devises a building made of water. — A look at the emerging trend in super-sizing architectural firms. — Boston may be mandating LEED silver, but San Francisco is going for gold. — Green tax breaks may be costing Las Vegas green bucks. — Master plan team picked for UB 2020 growth plan. — Design team picked for London's VeloPark (or perhaps Pringle Park?). — Russell on Nouvel's 40 Mercer Street: "an assured performance," but wonders why "New York can't trust architects to give it their all." — Corbu's legacy being shanghaied from Chandigarh. — AFH puts housing design within reach with OAN. — The Getty puts Kappe and Lautner archives within reach. — Imagining the possibilities of the Manhattan waterfront. — Towering plans for Liverpool's waterfront. — Reimagining Blackpool's waterfront as the People's Park. — Plans to make Limerick "a living 24 hour city." — Looks like no supercasino for the U.K., but how about 3 million homes? — Two takes on Calatrava's Chicago Trophy and his daughter's feet (no, it isn't a tower - catch the video). — Winners all: RIAI 2007 Irish Architecture Awards and the 2007 Spark Design & Architecture Awards.

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Water Walls: Digital Water Pavilion: A building made of water that will flow at Expo Zaragoza in Spain next year. -- MIT; carlorattiassociati [images]- ArchNewsNow

Designing a Super-firm: The recent acquisition of Hillier Architecture by RMJM, followed by the acquisition of RTKL Associates by Arcadis...exemplifies an emerging trend in which architectural firms are shelling out big bucks to super-size themselves.-BusinessWeek

Eco-tough S.F. code proposed for buildings: San Francisco will impose the nation's most environmentally rigorous building standards if officials agree to new recommendations...that private commercial developers meet the gold LEED standard by 2012.- San Francisco Chronicle

Vegas' Green 'Flash' Could Cost Nevada Millions: ...state assemblywoman had an idea in a flash: Encourage green building in Las Vegas by offering a tax break...Three years later, the break has proved too attractive. [audio]- National Public Radio (NPR)

University at Buffalo picks architect for master plan: ...the next step in its UB 2020 growth plan... -- Beyer Blinder Belle; Foit-Albert Associates; Andropogon Associates; DEGW; VFA- bizjournals.com

London Olympic VeloPark 'looks like a giant Pringle' — Hopkins Architects; Expedition Engineering; BDSP; Grant Associates [image]- 24dash.com (UK)

Nouvel's Sleek, \$4 Million Soho Condos Raise Bar on Lux Living: This is an assured performance, a dramatic improvement on New York's cookie-cutter norm for residential towers...Balazs has engaged about 30 percent of Nouvel's talent. It was the same story for Foster...and Gehry...Why is it that New York can't trust architects to give it their all? By James S. Russell [image]- Bloomberg News

Raiders Of The Ark: Canny French dealers loot Le Corbusier's legacy in Chandigarh and sell it overseas...Cashing in on ignorance in some cases and the connivance of corrupt officials in other cases, they made merry plundering the Le Corbusier-Pierre Jeanneret artefacts... [images]- Outlook India

Design Within Reach: Architecture for Humanity Builds the Future of Housing — Open Architecture Network (OAN)- Wired

Their designs within reach: The archives of Ray Kappe and John Lautner are going to the Getty, where they can be accessed by the public. — Koenig; Schindler; Wright; Eames; Shulman; etc.- Los Angeles Times

On the City's Final Frontier—the Waterfront: Roland Lewis, the new president and C.E.O. of the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance...wants people to imagine the possibilities—ferries by MetroCard, great parks, fresh housing and more!- New York Observer

City set for UK's highest homes: ...£130m skyscraper planned for Liverpool's waterfront...will soar 54 storeys and 170 metres into the Merseyside skyline and will comprise 412 apartments...final plans were formed by an extensive visual impact assessment of the World Heritage site. -- Leach Rhodes Walker (LRW) [image]-icLiverpool (UK)

Plans to transform coastline: Bosses at ReBlackpool...submitted their planning application for the People's Playground project...a "world class urban park" along the Promenade... -- LDA Design- Blackpool Citizen (UK)

Limerick regeneration plans unveiled: ...plans are designed to make Limerick 'a living 24 hour city' and a magnet for investment and tourism. -- EML architects- RTÉ (Ireland)

Three million homes but not a supercasino: Gordon Brown...promised the biggest programme of housebuilding since the 1970s — but left the country guessing where the homes will be, how much they will cost and what they will look like...stunned MPs by killing off the supercasino...prompted anger in Manchester...- The Times (UK)

A step in the right direction for Chicago's Olympic bid: ...hoping to get its foot in the door for future Olympic bids, a pair of bronze feet may do the trick...Santiago Calatrava unveiled his sculpture...The Chicago Trophy... [images]- Medill Reports (Chicago)

New sculpture premieres at Daley Plaza...The Chicago Trophy...because of Santiago Calatrava's love for soccer he created this elegant, slender and delicate sculpture. [video]- ABC News Chciago

RIAI 2007 Irish Architecture Awards Winners — Murray O'Laoire/Brian O'Connell Assoc.; DeBlacam & Meagher/Boyd Barret Murphy O'Connor; Keith Williams Architects; O'Mahony Pike; Vincent Coleman; Carr Cotter Naessens; McCullough Mulvin; A&D Wejchert and Partners; Office of Public Works (OPW) [images]- Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI)

2007 Spark Design & Architecture Award Winners -- Foster + Partners; Yves Behar/fuseproject; Pentagram; Terry + Terry Architecture; Lettuce Office; (M)Arch; Public Architecture; Marmol Radziner; 4240 Architecture/Thornton Tomasetti; etc. [images]- Spark

- -- Construction start: Asymptote Architecture: 166 Perry Street, New York, NY
- Competition winner: Erick van Egeraat: Tatarstan National Library, Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan
- -- Announcement: arcspace + Second Life

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